

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A road-engaging tire for preventing vehicle rollover or oversteer comprises comprising:

a pair of bead portions~~[[;]]~~ ~~[[;]]~~

a pair of sidewall portions~~[[;]]~~ ~~[[;]]~~ and

a tread portion extending between the pair of sidewall portions,

the tread portion having (i) a plurality of ribs and grooves defining a radially outwardly facing tread surface and (ii) a portion of low friction material positioned along an edge of a shoulder positioned at one side of the tread portion, the shoulder being radially of the tread portion between the radially outwardly facing tread surface and one of the pair of sidewall portions, and

the shoulder of the tread portion having low friction material that defines a generally side-facing surface of the shoulder and that is arranged to engage a road surface in response to side forces exerted on the tire and to of one of the pair of sidewall portions reduce frictional forces between the tire and the road when the low friction material contacts the road.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The tire of claim 1 ~~further comprising wherein~~ the tread portion has a second shoulder at the opposite side of the tread surface radially between the tread surface and the other of the pair of sidewall portions and low friction material a second portion of low friction material positioned that defines a generally side-facing surface of the second shoulder. along a second edge of the tread portion along the other one of the sidewall portions.

4. (Currently amended) The tire of claim 1 wherein the portion of low friction material is molded into the shoulder of the tread portion.

5. (Currently amended) The tire of claim 1 wherein the tire comprises rubber compound and the ~~portion of~~ low friction material is incorporated into the rubber compound radially inwardly of the edge tread surface of the tread portion.

6. (Currently amended) The tire of claim 1 wherein the ~~portion of~~ low friction material is a coating applied to the shoulder edge of the tread portion.

7. (Currently amended) The tire of claim 1 wherein the ~~portion of~~ low friction material is ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene.

8. (Currently amended) The tire of claim 1 wherein the ~~portion of~~ low friction material is a fluoropolymer.

9. (Currently amended) The tire of claim 1 wherein the ~~portion of~~ low friction material is silicon material.

10. (Currently amended) The tire of claim 1 wherein the ~~portion of~~ low friction material is ceramic material.

11. (Currently amended) The tire of claim 1 wherein the ~~portion of~~ low friction material is Kevlar[®] comprises an aromatic polyamide.

12. (Currently amended) The tire of claim 1 wherein the ~~portion of~~ low friction material is nylon.

13-56. (Canceled)

57. (New) The tire of claim 1 wherein at least one of the pair of sidewall portions comprises low friction material positioned radially inwardly of the low friction material of the shoulder of the tread portion and forming at least a portion of a side surface of the one sidewall portion.

58. (New) A road-engaging tire comprising:

a pair of bead portions;

a pair of sidewall portions;

a tread portion; and

the tire having a plurality of ribs and grooves that form (i) a radially outwardly facing tread surface and (ii) a side surface that extends radially inwardly of the radially outwardly facing tread surface, and

at least one of the ribs forming the side surface having low friction material that defines at least a portion of the side surface and is arranged to engage a road in response to side surfaces exerted on the tire and to reduce frictional forces between the tire and the road when the low friction material contacts the road.

59. (New) The tire of claim 58 wherein a plurality of circumferentially spaced ribs have low friction material that define portions of the side surface formed by the ribs.

60. (New) The tire of claim 59 wherein the tires has a second said shoulder at the other side of the tread surface and low friction material is positioned in at least one of the ribs of the second said shoulder that define portions of the side surface formed by the ribs of the second said shoulder.

61. (New) The tire of claim 59 wherein the low friction material is molded into the tire.

62. (New) The tire of claim 59 wherein the tire comprises rubber compound and the low friction material is incorporated into the rubber compound radially inwardly of the tread surface.

63. (New) The tire of claim 59 wherein the low friction material is a coating applied to the tire.